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ABSTRACT

This book brings together articles that have appeared in "Technology Connection," "Library Talk," and "The Book Report" magazines over the past five years. All of the articles have important tips, tricks, techniques, and suggestions for building a successful library media program. The book is divided into six chapters, each dealing with a different aspect of the "building" process. Chapter 1 "Drawing the Plans: Library Media Specialist as Architect" includes articles that inspire and validate the library media specialist's role in the school: tips for dealing with change and the stress accompanying it, plans and ideas for Internet access, volunteer help, and more. Chapter 2 "Gathering the Tools: Library Media Specialist as General Contractor" includes articles dealing with the "nitty-gritty" details of setting up a technology-rich library media program. Topics cover everything from the correct height of a computer desk, to funding sources and grant writing, to technology maintenance and networking strategies. Chapter 3 "Sound Footing: The Library Media Specialist Builds the Foundation" deals with the library media specialist's role as teacher collaborator and as professional development provider for the staff in the areas of technology and information literacy. Articles present rationale, ideas, examples of successful practices, and checklists of skills needed both by teachers and library media specialists. Teaching the research skills students need to survive in an information-rich world is the subject of Chapter 4 "Building the Structure: The Library Media Specialist as Carpenter." Articles include suggestions for teaching all of the necessary lifelong information skills, as well as ethical technology behavior, multimedia presentation skills, and more. Chapter 5 "Inspections: The Library Media Specialist as Building Inspector" includes articles dealing with the singular skill of critical evaluation of Internet resources. The articles contain tips and checklists for helping students determine the authority, authenticity, and applicability of information they find. Chapter 6 "The Open House: Library Media Specialist as Host/Hostess" includes articles dealing with library media centers and public relations. (AEF)

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